

ABSTRACT

Methods, compositions and articles of manufacture for assaying a sample for a
5 target polynucleotide are provided. A sample suspected of containing the target
polynucleotide is contacted with a polycationic multichromophore and a sensor PNA
complementary to the target polynucleotide. The sensor PNA comprises a signaling
chromophore to absorb energy from the excited multichromophore and emit light in the
presence of the target polynucleotide. The methods can be used in multiplex form. Kits
10 comprising reagents for performing such methods are also provided.